BROADCASTING OF TWO GENERATION CELLULAR SYSTEM CONTROL CHANNEL INFORMATION OVER A THREE GENERATION CONTROL CHANNEL TO SUPPORT ROAMING AND HANDOVER TO TWO GENERATION CELLULAR NETWORKS

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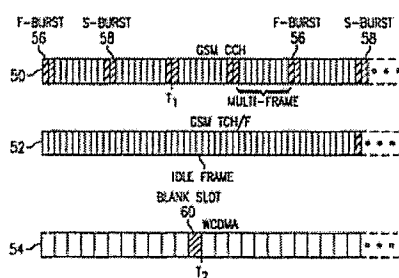**Priority number(s):** US19990231844 19990114; WO1999US29414 19991210

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A method, node and wireless communication terminal for providing handover and roaming from a 3G communication system to a 2G communication system. A dual-mode wireless terminal operating in a 3G communication system may obtain control channel information regarding a 2G communication system, and switch service as a function of the control channel information received. The method includes the step of providing control channel information for the 2G communication system over a downlink control channel of the 3G communication system to the wireless terminal. The node includes a means to communicate with the wireless communication terminal and a means providing control channel information of a second generation (2G) communication network over a downlink control channel at the 3G communication network. The wireless communication terminal includes a transceiver capable of communicating with a node of both a third generation (3G) wireless communication network and a second generation (2G) wireless communication metwork, and a control means coupled to the receiver for receiving and identifying control channel information indicative of the 2G communication network from a downlink control channel at the 3G communication network.